

## **MEMORANDUM**

Agenda Item No. 8(L)(1)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** May 6, 2025


**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution appointing Sam  
Accursio to the Miami-Dade  
County Biscayne Bay Watershed  
Management Advisory Board for  
a four-year term

Resolution No. R-425-25

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The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Micky Steinberg.

  
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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/ks

# Memorandum



**Date:** May 6, 2025

**To:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*  
Mayor

**Subject:** Appointment to the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board of Sam Accursio

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## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners appoint Sam Accursio, to the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board as board member representing the Dade County Farm Bureau.

## **Scope**

The recommendations and actions of the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board have countywide impact.

## **Delegation of Authority**

The proposed resolution does not delegate authority to the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee.

## **Fiscal Impact/Funding Source**

There is no fiscal impact associated with appointing Sam Accursio to the Advisory Board. The primary cost of the Advisory Board is staff time by the County's Office of Environmental Risk and Resilience and technical and professional staff throughout County departments, who also provide necessary support.

## **Track Record/Monitor**

The Advisory Board is staffed by the Office of Environmental Risk and Resilience. Technical and professional staff from the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources and Management (DERM), and Water and Sewer Department (WASD), provide technical information regarding projects aimed at reducing pollution and nutrients in the bay on a regular basis.

## **Background**

The Miami-Dade County Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board (Advisory Board) was created by the Board of County Commissioners, through Ordinance No. 21-72, as recommended by the Biscayne Bay Task Force. The Advisory Board was created by Article CLXIV of Chapter 2, Sections 2-2420 to 2-2426 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code) as a permanent board established to advise the Board of County Commissioners ("BCC") and the County Mayor on issues related to Biscayne Bay, including, but not limited to, (1) the long-term management of Biscayne Bay, (2) health of the marine community, (3) run-off and other impacts to water quality, (4) marine debris, (5) education and outreach, (6)

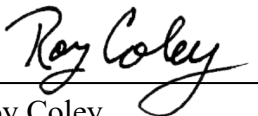
Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners  
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economic development and vitality related to Biscayne Bay, and (7) how conditions in Biscayne Bay may affect residents and property owners. These recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners will be used to update chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County to incorporate the findings of the Biscayne Bay Watershed Plan and prioritize projects to improve the water quality of Biscayne Bay. In addition, the advisory board provides a local perspective on Biscayne Bay problems, issues, and solutions.

**Dade County Farm Bureau**

The Dade County Farm Bureau has recommended Sam Accursio for appointment. Correspondence from the Dade County Farm Bureau and the resume of the nominee are included in Attachment A.

Attachment



Roy Coley  
Chief Utilities and Regulatory Services Officer



## DADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

1850 Old Dixie Hwy., Homestead, FL 33033 • Tel. 305-246-5514 • Fax 305-245-9170



December 16, 2024

Nancy Jackson  
Biscayne Bay Program Director  
[Nancy.Jackson@miamidade.gov](mailto:Nancy.Jackson@miamidade.gov)

This is to inform you that Dade County Farm Bureau has selected Sam Accursio as our nominee for the newly established Miami- Dade County Biscayne Bay Water Shed Management Advisory Board.

Attached is the resume for Sam Accursio and the minutes of the board meeting approving Sam Accursio as our nominee.

Thank you for including Dade County Farm Bureau in this very important initiative.

If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jocelyn Guilfoyle".

Jocelyn Guilfoyle,  
Executive Director, Dade County Farm Bureau



**Sam C. Accursio Jr.**

27725 SW 187<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Homestead, FL 33031

305-431-4895

**Resume**

April, 2024

***Professional Experience***

1980 to Present – Sam S. Accursio & Sons Farms, Homestead, Florida

Sam Accursio began at the farm with entry level positions as a child after school. Over time he learned and was responsible for every aspect of the operation. In 1983, when his father became ill, he gradually assumed control of all farm operations. At that time, the operation was double-cropping 2000 acres. Today the farm is fully self-sufficient in that all aspects of the farm are handled in house from land prep through planting, growing, harvesting, packing and shipping. The farm maintains a 99-100% GSFI Primus food safety rating on the packinghouse and ranches. At the busiest point of harvest, Sam S. Accursio & Sons Farms and Sam S. Accursio & Sons Packing & Produce employ just less than 200 people including the harvest crew.

***Education, Certifications, Licenses***

High-School graduate; State of Florida Agriculture Dealer’s License; State Pesticide License

***Personal/Family History***

Hobbies include boating and relaxing in the Florida Keys;  
Sam is married; he has 2 married sons and 6 grandchildren

***Memberships/Affiliations***

Agriculture Advisory Board TREC 2012-2015  
Agriculture Practices Advisory Board – Miami Dade County 2013-2024  
Board of Directors – South Florida Water Management – 2015 - 2019  
Board of Directors – 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of South Florida April, 2015 - 2019  
Advisory Board – 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of South Florida 1995-2002  
Board of Directors – Florida Farm Bureau 1990 – 2003; 2021 – Present  
Florida Farm Bureau – State of Florida Labor Advisory Board – 2021 – Present



# DADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

1850 Old Dixie Hwy., Homestead, FL 33033 • Tel. 305-246-5514 • Fax 305-245-9170



## Board of Director's Meeting Minutes December 10th, 2024 @ 11:30 AM

1. Call to order: - President, Heather Moehling called the meeting to order @ 12:16 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance: – Larry Dunagan led the board in reciting the pledge.
3. Ag Patrol Present: Alex Angulo, Ernesto Rodriguez- Discussed 68 cases, 23 arrests, 47 civil violations, they recovered 1390 cubic feet of debris, 5 burglaries associated to agriculture, and 8 thefts.
4. Guests: - Ernie & Nancy Font with EOS – tracking systems for equipment.

Guests dismissed for Regular Roll Call.

5. Board Member's Present: - President; Heather Moehling, Vice President; David Torbert, Secretary; Steve Hoveland, Treasurer; David Hanck, Kern Carpenter, Jorge Zamora, Erik Tietig, Larry Dunagan, Hal Arve, Phil Marraccini, Mark Philcox, Kevin Uzquiano, Mick Gnaegy, Mark Wilson, Margie Pikarsky, Tom Rieder.
6. Board Member's Absent: - Sam Accursio III, Sam Accursio Jr, Bobby Shekels, Jeff DeMott, David Kaplan, Sal Finocchiaro, Peter Schnebly, Pedro Sifuentes, Kim Sue Hosang, Paul Wiggins, Barney Rutzke Jr., & Ivonne Alexander.
7. Other's Present: - Exec. Dir.; Jocelyn Guilfoyle, Exec. Assist.; Joanne Dean, Florida Farm Bureau District 9 Field Representative; Sam Phares, Miami Dade Ag Manager; Charles LaPradd, FDACS-Reg. Dir. for Ag. Comm.- Wilton Simpson; Jorge Abreu.

- President's Report: -Heather discussed Jocelyn and Joanne have been working hard covering several Saturday events , BCC meeting hearing on road repair paving projects as opposed to paving new roads.
- Secretary's Report: Steve H motioned to approve the November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, board meeting minutes, Mark Philcox, seconded, and board approved.
- Treasurer's Report: - David Hanck went through the October financials –Mark P. motioned to approve the October financials, Phil M. seconded, and board approved. He advised the Bank United CD matured on 11/28/24 and he has a meeting scheduled with Regions Bank. He will be looking into moving \$120,000 into a money market account at South State for 2.7%.

- Miami- Dade Ag Manager's Report: - Charles LaPradd mentioned that there was a new Marketing Assistance grant available for Specialty Crop Producers through USDA – Farm Service Agency applications accepted from Dec. 10,2024- Jan 8, 2025.
- FDACS update- Jorge Abreu: Mentioned they were currently working on next year's agenda/ projects.

8. Unfinished Business-

Jocelyn's 90 day follow up for pay increase was discussed with the board. (Jocelyn and Joanne were dismissed from the board room). Erik T. motioned to give a 5 % increase retroactive back to Oct 2024. Mark W. seconded the motion, and the board approved.

9. New Business-

- It was determined that Heather, Jocelyn, Jorge Z. and Peter would be attending Farm Bureau Day in Tallahassee which will be held March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Sam Accursio's position on the BBWM Advisory Board was ratified as John Alger is resigning. Mark W. motioned to approve Sam A., Margie P. seconded the motion, and the board approved.
- Tom Rieder announced he will be stepping down from the board; Mark W. motioned to appoint Bobby Rieder to fill his place; Larry Dunagan seconded, board approved.

Updates

- a. Executive Director-Jocelyn Guilfoyle discussed having received 3 FFBF Women's Committee Mini Grant checks to be distributed to the following 3 schools, South Dade Middle, Felix Varela, and Macarthur Educational Center. Hal's retirement party is well in the works along with the plans for the DCFB/ FNGLA Christmas Party. Rodeo Queen contestant tickets are on sale at the front desk. Nov. events had a great turn out for the Annual Turkey Drive, we purchased and distributed 120 turkeys along with donation from Farm Share for the Nonperishables.
- b. Field Representative- Sam Phares- Report attached. She also mentioned that the FFBF state office is set to roll out new membership software at the first of the year and that there is mandatory training that needs to be completed to work on that system.
- c. Agency Manager- Hal Arve advised State Representative- Barney Rutzke Jr.- Newly appointed state director. He also advised Racey Timmons Jr. would be the new Agency Manager effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and Racey has to ladies lined up for Agent positions. Hal also advised he will continue to work on crop business.

Open Discussion-

Larry discussed that we should have facility approval for BBQ parking.

11. Committee Reports –

- a) Government Affairs – Jorge Zamora advised of 2 new bills to keep an eye on. HB 35- Heat Illness prevention- (Extends liability) and SB 84- Farm Worker Housing (E-Verify and funding). He also will have a meeting with Jane Gilbert, Miami Dade Heat Czar at a Multi-industry round table. He discussed Overtime exemption, Third Party rule when it comes to OSHA visits and Farm Worker protection Rule shot down in 17 states. Setting up tours with Senator Jay Collins, Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez and Senator Alexis Calatayud.

12. Next Meeting Date: 1/7/25

13. Motion to adjourn: Larry D. motioned to adjourn; Steve H. seconded board approved, and meeting adjourned at 1:18 PM.

Upcoming Dates:

Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, DCFB/ FNGLA Christmas Party at Redland Golf and Country Club.

Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, Hal Arve's Retirement Party at Redland Golf and Country Club.



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** May 6, 2025

**FROM:**   
Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 8(L)(1)

Please note any items checked.

- “3-Day Rule” for committees applicable if raised**
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**
- Budget required**
- Statement of fiscal impact required**
- Statement of social equity required**
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor’s report for public hearing**
- No committee review**
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3’s present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5’s \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, majority plus one \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3) (h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c) (2) \_\_\_\_ ) to approve**
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 8(L)(1)  
5-6-25

RESOLUTION NO. R-425-25

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SAM ACCURSIO TO THE  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BISCAYNE BAY WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD FOR A FOUR-YEAR  
TERM

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board appoints Sam Accursio, as recommended by the Dade County Farm Bureau, to the Miami-Dade County Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board to serve a four-year term beginning with the effective date of this resolution.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Kionne L. McGhee** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	<b>aye</b>		
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	<b>aye</b>		
Marleine Bastien	<b>aye</b>	Juan Carlos Bermudez	<b>aye</b>
Sen. René García	<b>aye</b>	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	<b>aye</b>
Roberto J. Gonzalez	<b>aye</b>	Keon Hardemon	<b>aye</b>
Danielle Cohen Higgins	<b>aye</b>	Eileen Higgins	<b>aye</b>
Raquel A. Regalado	<b>aye</b>	Micky Steinberg	<b>aye</b>
District 6 - Vacant			

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: Basia Pruna  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "NJB", is written over a circular stamp.

Narinah P. Jean-Baptiste